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#31A
PJA
1-10-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
PRIMOZ LORENCAK ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPL :
(Based on PCT/EP00/02567)
FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: MODIFICATION OF STARCH
WITH CATIONIC POLYMERS AND
USE OF MODIFIED STARCHES
AS PAPER DRY STRENGTH
ENHANCER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 12.

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

- A
3. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said starch is a native starch.
 4. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said starch is selected from the group consisting of the starch ethers, the starch esters, the oxidized native starch, the oxidized starch ethers and the oxidized starch esters.